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Date Name

File No.: 101769-123

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Examiner: To Be Assigned
Group Art Unit: To Be Assigned
Applicant: Manfred SPIES; and Zygmunt KOZACKA
Serial No.: To Be Assigned
Filed: Concurrently herewith
For: **ADHESIVE TAPE** (as amended)

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Hon. Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121 as follows:

On page 1, delete all lines above line 9.

On page 1, line 9, replace the title "Adhesive tapes" with the following title: Adhesive

Tape

On page 3, after the second full paragraph, which begins with "This", please add the following paragraph:

In accordance with the invention, the adhesive tape with the backing includes a cohesive adhesive composition of a styrene-butadiene dispersion having a butadiene content of more than 55% in a blend with natural rubber latex. The composition is coated onto the backing and then dried. The natural rubber latex may be either of the low ammonia or of the high ammonia type. The mixtures of different styrene-butadiene types and natural rubber latex types may also be used. The adhesive composition is chemically crosslinkable with customary crosslinkers (e.g., aluminum chelate or titanium chelate, further metal complexes, isocyanates, epoxy, etc.). Further, the adhesive composition is physically crosslinkable, in particular by means, for example, of EBC. In addition, the aging stability may be improved by adding aging inhibitors and UV stabilizers. The backing of the adhesive tape is contemplated to be made of either a polyolefin, polyester, PVC or paper. The application rate of the adhesive composition is about 10-120 g/m². To improve the anchoring of the composition the backing is physically surface treated or is pretreated with a primer. The styrene-butadiene dispersion is of the type of a carboxylated styrene-butadiene dispersion. The fraction of natural rubber latex is in the range of about 5-80%, in particular about 20-50%, based on the total solids content.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 2-13 without prejudice and add new claims 14-27 as follows:

14. (new) The adhesive tape as claimed in claim 1, wherein the natural rubber latex has either low ammonia latices or high ammonia latices.

15. (new) The adhesive tape as claimed in claim 1, wherein the styrene-butadiene comprises different styrene-butadiene types and the natural rubber latex comprises different natural rubber types.

16. (new) The adhesive tape as claimed in claim 1, wherein the adhesive composition is chemically crosslinkable with at least one of aluminum chelate, titanium chelate, metal complexes, isocyanates and epoxy.

17. (new) The adhesive tape as claimed in claim 1, wherein the adhesive composition is physically crosslinkable with EBC.

18. (new) The adhesive tape as claimed in claim 1, wherein the adhesive composition further comprises an aging inhibitor and a UV stabilizer.

19. (new) The adhesive tape as claimed in claim 1, wherein the backing is one of a polyolefin, polyester, PVC or paper.

20. (new) The adhesive tape as claimed in claim 1, wherein the adhesive composition has been coated onto the backing at an application rate of 10-120 g/m².

21. (new) The adhesive tape as claimed in claim 1, wherein the backing is physically surface treated for improving anchoring of the adhesive composition to the backing.

22. (new) The adhesive tape as claimed in claim 1, wherein the backing is pretreated with a primer for improving anchoring of the adhesive composition to the backing.

23. (new) The adhesive tape as claimed in claim 1, wherein the styrene-butadiene dispersion is a carboxylated styrene-butadiene dispersion.

24. (new) The adhesive tape as claimed in claim 1, wherein the natural rubber latex in the adhesive composition is in the range of about 5-80%, based on a total solids content of the adhesive composition.

25. (new) The adhesive tape as claimed in claim 24, wherein the natural rubber latex in the adhesive composition is in the range of 20-50%, based on the total solids content of the adhesive composition.

26. (new) A method for producing an adhesive tape having a backing, comprising the steps of

a) preparing a blend of a styrene-butadiene dispersion and natural rubber latex, the adhesive composition being a styrene-butadiene dispersion having a butadiene content of more than 55% in a blend;

- b) coating the backing with the blend; and
- c) drying the coating onto the backing.


27. (new) A method of producing an adhesive bond, comprising the steps of:

- a) providing an adhesive tape, as claimed in claim 1; and
- b) adhering said adhesive tape to a substance to produce said adhesive bond.

REMARKS

The above amendments were made to place the application into proper U.S. patent format. Early and favorable consideration is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
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